

WASHINGTON, DC—Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, released the following statement after signing the Conference Committee report on H.R. 3630:

**“This committee was charged with three tasks: to extend the payroll tax cut for 160 million middle class Americans, to ensure Americans who lost their jobs through no fault of their own receive their unemployment insurance benefits, and to guarantee our seniors on Medicare have access to the doctors of their choice and the care that they need. □**

**For a time, it seemed that our committee might bog down or fail on account of efforts to inject controversial and extraneous proposals into this conference legislation. □ That flashback to last year’s brinksmanship was, fortunately, avoided. □ This conference committee can now report to the full Congress a bipartisan agreement that fulfills its charge.□**

**Let’s be clear. □ This agreement is by no means free of controversy. □ The facts on this will surface. □ But it’s a far better deal for the American people than the plan House Republicans passed last year.**

**I commend my colleagues on the conference committee for their work and I thank our Leader Nancy Pelosi for once again entrusting me with this great responsibility to help move our country forward.”**